

*Social Soundings*

will kill contractual justice. And as contractual justice is the very life of all ultimate free social institutions, divorce legislation, if it is not repealed, will ultimately kill social institutions.

VINCENT McNABB, O.P.

*BIRTHDAY WISHES*

**I**N Guernsey and the Scilly Isles,  
And all along the Pyrenees,  
The blessed earth is rich for miles  
With what will be anemones.

In time my unforgotten friend  
(If all should chance as I foresee)  
Will spend a franc or two, and send  
The very flower that pleases me.

A happy man will cut the string;  
And shape the vision of surprise;  
He'll fetch his breath as if to sing;  
And hold the rapture of his eyes.

He'll get and fill the Gallé glass  
To make the travelled flowers revive,  
No flower in beauty can surpass,  
If any other thing alive.

So, all disposed with simple art,  
He'll stand the vessel on a dish;  
And wish himself with all his heart  
The customary birthday wish.

JOHN GRAY.